

The local police were equally perplexed. The crime might simply have been an elaborate act of vandalism, a crude anti-Semitic protest—or perhaps the criminals meant to extort money from Taylor, though no one had contacted the actress with any demands.



Finally, on Tuesday, June 28th, a flamboyant private eye named Anthony Pellicano arrived on the scene and solved the case—without actually clearing up the mystery. Born in 1944 (as Anthony Joseph Pellicano Jr.) and raised by a single mom, the PI had grown up in Cicero and dropped out of high school. “I’m a kid from the streets,” he told *People* magazine in 1993. “I could have been a criminal just as easily.” Propelled in part by the hoopla surrounding the Todd case, Pellicano moved to California in 1983, where for nearly 20 years the publicity-hungry sleuth enjoyed a reputation as the “detective to the stars.”

All that changed in November 2002 when FBI agents raided Pellicano’s Sunset Boulevard office and discovered military-grade plastic explosives inside a locked safe. The feds began investigating Pellicano’s business practices, and today the gumshoe languishes in a Los Angeles jail, indicted on 110 counts of illegal wiretapping, extortion, and other charges. Meanwhile, back in Chicago, testimony in the ongoing Family Secrets trial has tied Pellicano with one of the most notorious members of the local Mob.

Before he left Chicago for good, Mike Todd had his own entanglement with the Mob—just one of the parallels his life shared with Pellicano’s. Both men defied hardscrabble origins to create new identities for themselves, and both used their talent for talking a good game to help satisfy their hunger for fame. And both men understood the benefits of cultivating the press—although in Pellicano’s case, that voluble habit seemed to violate one of his principal tenets. During a 1978 interview with the *Chicago Tribune*, he had pointed to a plaque on his office wall that said, “Silence is a friend that will never betray you.”

Added Pellicano, “That’s the only way to guard your privacy.”

Born in Minneapolis around 100 years ago—his birth date is generally given as June 22, 1907 or 1909—Mike Todd moved to Chicago in 1918 after his Polish-born father became the rabbi of a Jewish congregation on the city’s Northwest Side. The family settled into a house on Le Moyne Street just west of Wicker Park, where young Avrom Goldbogen, the seventh of eight children, was known affectionately as Toaty or Toady. Though the nickname’s origins are clouded, it became the basis for his adopted surname, Todd. (“Michael” is the Anglicized version of his grandfather’s name, Moishe.)

Kicked out of the sixth grade for running a craps game, Todd held a variety of jobs before he and his older brother Frank founded the very successful Atlantic and Pacific Construction Company: according to *A Valuable Property*, Michael Todd Jr.’s biography of his father, Todd was worth \$1 million by his 18th birthday. He married the daughter of a prosperous local grocer and built a townhouse for himself on Goethe Street. When his company’s bonding company went belly-up, Todd went broke, but earned—and, thanks to the Depression, lost—his second wife and two sons during the Great Crash of 1929.



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Kurtis grabbed a cameraman and rushed out to Forest Park. At some point—he can't recall exactly when—he also called police. At the cemetery (which Kurtis describes as resembling a savanna, with thickets of ash and oak trees and only a few graves), Pellicano and Kurtis headed for Todd's grave. Pellicano recited aloud the instructions he had received and began pacing off distances from the grave. Finally, when he had walked about 75 yards, he cried out. "He yelled, 'I think this is it!'" recalls Kurtis. "I came running over, and sure enough, it was."

Though Kurtis aired the story that night, he says he was already "a little leery" of Pellicano—as were the police. "They had looked all over the cemetery," says Kurtis, "and now [Pellicano] walks right up to it. It must have been embarrassing to the policemen [who had conducted the search]."

According to news stories at the time, Pellicano found a rubber bag containing the remains beneath a pile of branches, leaves, and dirt. He told the *Sun-Times* he had relied on a tip he had received from someone likely acting on behalf of the thieves. "I think they felt they made a tremendous mistake," he said. "The information was volunteered to me. I'm a public figure, and I've handled many, many missing figures."

Pellicano went on to reveal a possible motive. Other sources, he said, "told me the reason these people perpetrated this horrendous act is they were looking for a ten-carat diamond ring that allegedly was given to [Todd] by Elizabeth Taylor." As it turned out, no ring or other valuables were in the grave with Todd. "I think [the crime] was very, very silly," said Pellicano.

So exactly who looted Mike Todd's grave? And how could Forest Park

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Services [edit]

Gavin de Becker and Associates is a "threat assessment and security firm"^[6] that provides private security^[7] and also offers protection training courses.^[8]

They have provided services to corporations, government agencies, and schools. Clients reportedly include the Central Intelligence Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and "the 90 most prominent families in the world".^[9] Over the years, public client references have included Theresa Saldana, Madonna, Cher, Michelle Pfeiffer, Michael J. Fox, Barbra Streisand, Jeff Bezos, John Travolta and Robert F. Kennedy Jr.^{[10][11][12]}

The Private Suite [edit]

Gavin de Becker and Associates opened the Private Suite at the Los Angeles International Airport on May 15, 2017, which is described by *The Wall Street Journal* as "a remote terminal for VIPs, celebrities, CEOs", and anyone willing to pay for privacy.^[13] de Becker reported the Private Suite will soon open at John F. Kennedy International Airport.^[1]

In November 2017, it was reported that GDBA opened a version of the Private Suite at the Westfield Century City shopping center, which provides VIP shoppers the opportunity of a private shopping experience.^[1]

See also [edit]

- Bill McGlashan, founder and managing partner of TPG Growth
- XOJET

References [edit]

Windows Start button, Taskbar icons (including File Explorer, Edge, Mail, Photos, OneDrive, etc.), System tray showing battery level (80%), temperature (80°F), and system status.

Since and the discovery of mega explosives and some interesting recordings.

Pellicano pleaded guilty to the explosives charge and received 30 months in prison. Before he finished serving that sentence, federal prosecutors indicted him on another 110 counts of illegal wiretapping and racketeering. This past May, a judge pushed Pellicano's trial back to February 2008 so his lawyers would have time to review the government's evidence: 150,000 pages and hundreds of telephone recordings. (Those recordings have much of Hollywood very worried, as stars, producers, and other entertainment heavyweights wonder what the tapes will reveal and whom they might implicate.) Pellicano awaits the trial in jail.

As for Mike Todd, his remains were returned to his original grave, and he lies for eternity in lot 66 of the Beth Aaron section of Waldheim Cemetery—presuming some fool with a shovel doesn't concoct another harebrained scheme about digging for nonexistent diamonds. In the Jewish religion, death marks the end of the story; there is little emphasis on an afterlife. But ten years ago, anticipating surgery on a brain tumor, Elizabeth Taylor—nearly 65 and, after eight marriages, single once again—recalled the time she had nearly died of pneumonia in London a few years after Todd's death. "I went through the tunnel and saw the most wonderful light at the end of it," she told *Life* magazine. "And I longed to be there. But Mike Todd was at the end of the tunnel, and he told me I had to go back—and live!"



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Anthony Pellicano is Hollywood's best known "security consultant." He's often called "The Celebrities' Thug."

He was arrested by police 11/21/02 for allegedly hiring a thug to intimidate Los Angeles Times journalist Anita Busch from writing on Pellicano's client Steven Seagal. ([Read the FBI affidavit filed in support of the Pellicano criminal charge](#). Read more on Pellicano from [Smoking Gun](#))

Pellicano hates his biggest competitor - Gavin de Becker, calling him a "f-king wimp." ([Jeanette Walls, Dish, pg. 276](#))

Journalist [Alex Constantine writes](#): "Pellicano has more mob connections than J. Edgar Hoover."

Born Anthony Joseph Pellicano Jr., the grandson of Sicilian immigrants, in 1944 in a working class suburb of Chicago, Pellicano grew up on the streets. "I could have been a criminal just as easily." ([Dish](#), pg. 276)

"Kicked out of high school because he was "too interested in being a tough guy," he acquired discipline and a diploma in the Army Signal Corps. In those days he was Tony Pellicano -- his grandfather had dropped the O when the family left Sicily. By the time he finished his stint as an Army cryptographer, he had changed his surname back to Pellicano, in honor of his heritage, he said." ("Streetwise Gumshoe to the Stars," by Shawn Hubler and James Bates, Los Angeles Times, September 11, 1993)

Raised by his mother, Anthony dropped out of high school. He got a GED in the army signal corp before joining the Spiegel catalogue company "skip tracing" customers who didn't pay their bills.

In 1969, he set up his own business as a private detective. He found several publicized missing persons and became a celebrity in Chicago. He worked for the government. He loved publicity. He "drove a huge Lincoln Continental, hung Samurai swords in his office, and sealed his letters with monogrammed wax." ([Dish](#), pg. 276)

In 1974, Pellicano declared bankruptcy. His filing revealed he'd borrowed \$30,000 from Paul "The Waiter" de Lucia, the son of a reputed mobster. "Paul de Lucia is my daughter's godfather," Pellicano said. "He's just like any other guy in the neighborhood." ([Dish](#))

Pellicano had to resign his position on the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission.

In 1977, Pellicano gained fame in what his detractors called dishonest. He purported to have found the body of Elizabeth Taylor's third husband, Mike Todd. It had been stolen from a Chicago cemetery.

Bringing along a camera crew from a local news station, Pellicano dramatically walked seventy-five yards south of the excavated grave, reached around under some leaves and branches, and by jove, he found a plastic bag of Todd's remains. Pellicano's rivals claimed he'd staged the entire episode for publicity. ([Jeanette Walls, Dish, pg. 276-277](#))

Lt. Joseph Byrnes of the Forest Park, Illinois, police told journalist John Connolly: "Seven patrolmen and I, walking shoulder to shoulder, searched every inch of that small cemetery, and we found nothing. The very next day, Pellicano makes a big deal of finding the remains in a spot we had thoroughly checked." (Los Angeles magazine, 2/94)

Taylor introduced Pellicano to her Hollywood friends. Criminal attorney Howard Weitzman hired him. The two successfully defended John DeLorean from cocaine trafficking charges.

In 1983, Pellicano moved to Los Angeles, setting up an office on Sunset Blvd (now at 9200 Sunset Blvd according to his website [www.pellicano.com](#)). He was coached by Fred Otash, the private investigator for the notorious 1950s gossip rag Confidential. ([Dish](#), pg. 277)

Pellicano became what he calls "the ultimate problem solver." ([Dish](#), pg. 277)

Jeanette Walls writes in her 2000 book [Dish](#): "Pellicano didn't tackle the problem, he went after the accuser. He has, foes say, boasted of his underworld contacts and threatened people with violence."

Pellicano boasted about his membership in MENSA, a group for people with high IQs.

Before the deaths of Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman, O.J. Simpson hired Pellicano to silence a secretary who accused the football star of abusive behavior. Pellicano dug up embarrassing info about the secretary. "Anthony is one of those people who is, shall we say, a lion at the gate," said Simpson after the case was dismissed. "He is not a man to be on the wrong side of." ([Dish](#), pg. 277-78)

Pellicano is believed to be the one who dug up information about Patricia Bowman, the woman who accused William Kennedy Smith of raping her. ([Dish](#), pg. 278)

When a former receptionist sued [Don Simpson](#) for \$5 million, Pellicano dug up embarrassing information about her, ruining her life and her case.

"So when a doctor named Stephen Ammerman, who was said to be treating Don Simpson for drug addiction, [died of a drug overdose](#) at Simpson's Bel Aire estate, the producer immediately called Pellicano. Later, Ammerman's family filed a wrongful death suit, alleging the doctor hadn't willingly taken the drugs that killed him and that Pellicano and others destroyed evidence before police arrived on the scene. The charges against Pellicano were dismissed after Simpson himself died the following year of a drug overdose." ([Dish](#), pg. 278)

Pellicano tried to track down Spy magazine's anonymous Hollywood columnist Celia Brady.

"When Los Angeles magazine was preparing an exposé of the tabloid [National Enquirer], reporter Rod Lurie said the detective threatened him and tried to get the piece killed. "There was consistent cultlike phone intimidation from Pellicano," said Lurie. "He would call my friends and family and editors I worked for at other magazines, saying I was through in this town." According to Lurie, Pellicano paid the reporter's research assistant to steal his notes." ([Dish](#), pg. 279)

decorated his office with samurai swords. For a time he employed the pulp-fiction nom de guerre of Tony Fortune. A slight man who eschewed firearms—"A gun is a physical solution to a mental problem," he told the *Tribune*—he had a black belt in karate and was known sometimes to brandish a Louisville Slugger. "I can't do everything by the book," he insisted. "I bend the law to death in gaining information."

Pellicano's law-bending—and his association with reputed mobsters—may have been greater than he let on. Within a few years of opening his own agency, the detective had already garnered some good publicity—in 1973 he detected a listening device in the office of Illinois's then secretary of state, Michael Howlett—and won a seat on the influential Illinois Law Enforcement Commission. Things took a downward turn the following year when he filed for bankruptcy protection. During that process, Pellicano admitted he had borrowed \$30,000 from Paul DeLucia Jr., the son of Paul "the Waiter" Ricca, who had briefly led the Chicago Mob in the 1940s. Pellicano insisted that DeLucia, his daughter's godfather, was "just like any other guy in the neighborhood," but the information was enough to force Pellicano to resign from the commission.

Testimony in the ongoing Family Secrets trial suggests that Pellicano may have had closer links with the Mob—especially with Joseph "Joey the Clown" Lombardo. Among other things, prosecutors have alleged that Lombardo was behind the 1974 murder of Daniel Seifert, who had been scheduled to testify against Lombardo in an embezzlement case. Lombardo's lawyers claim he has a "rock-solid" alibi—provided, as it turns out, by Pellicano, who collected evidence demonstrating that Lombardo was having breakfast in a Chicago pancake house at the time two gunmen shot Seifert outside his Bensenville plastics company.

Other damaging tales have emerged in the trial. This June, Alva Johnson Rodgers, a career criminal, testified that Pellicano had paid him \$5,000 in 1973 or 1974 to torch an empty Mount Prospect house; at Pellicano's urging, Rodgers said, he also vandalized a Chicago restaurant, but balked at burning the place down. Pellicano's lawyer, Steven F. Gruel, has repeatedly denied that his client ever had any ties to the Mob. (Gruel and Pellicano declined to comment for this article.)

When officials retrieved the remains of Mike Todd from the wreckage of the *Lucky Liz* in 1958, they didn't come away with much. Todd was charred beyond recognition, and officials could identify him only through dental records. His wedding ring survived, and police returned it to Taylor. The rest—basically a handful of dust and what was likely part of a nylon seat belt—was scooped into a rubber bag and buried in Forest Park's Waldheim Cemetery. There it rested until the weekend of June 25, 1977, a few days after what would have been Todd's 68th or 70th birthday.

To get to Todd's remains, thieves first had to move a 300- to 400-pound granite tombstone about ten feet. They then dug a four-and-a-half-foot-deep hole and unearthed the bronze coffin. They pried open the coffin's lid, smashed a glass case, and extracted the rubber bag containing Todd's remains. Police, who estimated the entire operation took at least five hours, said that the thieves—because the tombstone

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But in 1994, Joseph Byrnes, a Forest Park police lieutenant, told *Los Angeles* magazine a different story. "Seven patrolmen and I, walking shoulder to shoulder, searched every inch of that small cemetery, and we found nothing," he said. "The very next day, Pellicano makes a big deal of finding the remains in a spot we had thoroughly checked."

Kurtis, too, thinks it unlikely that police could have missed Todd's remains. "The police had to have gone over that ground," he says. "Whoever took [the remains] must have returned them. They were getting too hot to hang on to."

That doesn't mean Kurtis thinks Pellicano was the thief, although he hasn't entirely dismissed that possibility. But he has difficulty accepting a scenario that involves Pellicano stealing Todd's remains with the intent of later returning them to the cemetery where he could dramatically "find" them. To Kurtis, that just seems like too much work.

One thing Kurtis doesn't doubt is Pellicano's craving for the limelight. He notes that 30 years ago, in the pre-cable era, the local nightly news on Channel 2, which paired Kurtis with Walter Jacobson, was the biggest show in town. "Maybe the reason Pellicano called me is that we were so hot," says Kurtis. "It would give him maximum exposure. He loved the publicity—and it was a hell of a story."

Six years after finding Todd's remains, Pellicano turned his back on Chicago and headed for California, where—according to Jeannette Walls's *Dish: How Gossip Became the News and the News Became Just*

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Couple parted with a desperate kiss. I'm too happy, said Todd. I'm afraid that something's going to happen because I'm too happy." Taylor later claimed that she too had a disturbing premonition about the trip.

While trying to fly through a storm, the *Lucky Liz* crashed in the Zuni Mountains about 75 miles west of Albuquerque, New Mexico, killing Todd and three others. On the morning of March 23rd, Taylor's doctor, Rex Kennamer, and two others arrived at the Todd home and delivered the news to Taylor. "All I could do was scream 'No, no, no!'" Taylor recalled, according to J. Randy Taraborrelli's *Elizabeth*. Clad in a skimpy nightgown, she ran into the street and fell to her knees, still screaming. "No, not Mike. Not Mike. Dear God, please, not Mike."

The funeral was two days later at Waldheim Cemetery in Forest Park, where Todd would be buried next to his father. The reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes had provided a TWA jet so that Taylor could make the flight to Chicago in private. Still in shock, she initially refused to make the trip, until the singer Eddie Fisher—he and his wife, Debbie Reynolds, were friends of the Todds'—convinced her she had the strength to get through the ordeal. (Fourteen months later, Fisher became Taylor's fourth husband.)

Despite the cold weather, thousands of people turned out at the cemetery to try to catch a glimpse of Taylor. They had packed picnic lunches and spread out blankets among the graves. Taylor came away with memories of Coke bottles littering the grounds and empty potato chip bags blowing through the air. Clad in black and supported by Dr. Kennamer and her brother, Howard, she made her way from the limousine to a tent that shielded the gravesite from the crowd. She flung herself on Todd's bronze casket and cried hysterically: "Oh, no! No! No! No!" In front of 38 mourners, a local rabbi led the traditional Jewish ceremony, though occasionally ushers had to step outside and implore the crowd to be quiet. "He was not only a father but the greatest human being in the entire world," said Mike Todd Jr. "I loved him so much, oh, so much," sobbed Taylor.

On the day Michael Todd died, Anthony Pellicano celebrated his 14th birthday in Cicero. Around two years later, having blossomed (by his own admission) into a street tough, he dropped out of high school, though he would earn his GED during a stint with the U.S. Army Signal Corps, where, he claims, he was trained as a cryptographer. Following his discharge, he got a job as a skip-tracer with the Spiegel Company—tracking down people who had not paid their bills. In 1969, he established his own detective agency. Around this time, he restored the "o" at the end of the family name; his Sicilian grandfather had dropped that final vowel after emigrating to the United States.

Pellicano had several strengths as a private investigator. Known early on as "the man of a thousand voices," he could easily assume whatever character the situation called for. "I'm an actor," he told the *Tribune* in 1978. "I let people underestimate me. I will act stupid, ignorant, emotional, but I never am." Pellicano was also an expert in what he called "forensic audio": voice identification, electronic surveillance, detecting eavesdropping devices. He exhibited the kind of flair usually seen in a Hollywood film noir. He owned twin Lincoln Continentals and

In 1989, Lurie got a note or a list or the Enquirer's paid tipsters. Soon after, Anthony Pellicano called Lurie, and according to Rod, became "very threatening [and] told me in no uncertain terms that he was working for the Enquirer and he was being paid a lot of money to get this file back."

Pellicano called Lurie's editor Nancy Griffin and warned, "Bad things can happen to nice lady editors."

Kim Masters writes in the March 2003 issue of Esquire: "In March 1990, Lurie was knocked from his bike by a hit-and-run driver, breaking some bones. He doesn't claim that Pellicano was somehow involved in the accident, but Lurie says Pellicano may have wanted him to think so when Pellicano called him shortly afterward. 'Pellicano knew about it awfully fast,' he says. 'But that could be drama-queen stuff - on his part or mine.'

On March 11, 1990, Lurie was riding on a motorcycle near his home in Pasadena. A car drove up behind him and hit him. Lurie wound up in the hospital with two broken ribs and a busted back. "It was no accident," he Lurie. "That car hit me on purpose. There's absolutely no doubt about it ... I saw the the guy veer over and go right for me. The tabloids warned me if I didn't back off I'd be sorry. I think they just made good on their threat." (tabloidbaby.com)

"I can't do everything by the book," says Pellicano. "I bend the law to death in gaining information." Pellicano tells people he carries an aluminum baseball bat in the trunk of his black Nexus. "Guys who fuck with me get to meet my buddy over there," he told a reporter, pointing towards the bat.

Pellicano tells people that he is an expert with a knife. "I can shred your face." He has a blackbelt in karate. "If I use martial arts, I might really maim somebody. I have, and I don't want to. I only use intimidation and fear when I absolutely have to." (*Dish*, pg. 278)

"Reporter John Connolly also experienced Pellicano's hardball P.R. when he wrote an article on [Steven] Seagal. Connolly claimed that he had evidence that Seagal was linked to the mob, had lied about his CIA experience, and had paid to have someone killed. Seagal turned Pellicano loose on Connolly. The reporter, a former cop, didn't back down, but the experience was harrowing. 'Most journalism schools don't teach reporters how to respond to a Louisville Slugger,' said Connolly. His tactics have a real chilling effect." (*Dish*, pg. 290)

9/8/94: LOS ANGELES (AP) -- A private eye with a celebrity clientele denied he was shadowing O.J. Simpson's ex-wife when she was slashed to death.

"I only wish that this were true," Anthony Pellicano told The Associated Press on Thursday. "Imagine, I watch O.J. do it or someone else do it. Think of the money I could make. I would be a hero to O.J. or a hero to the public. I'm saying, why can't this be true?"

Pellicano, who has worked for Michael Jackson and Roseanne, said he has been subpoenaed to testify before a grand jury because he was wrongly fingered as a potential witness by John Dunton.

Dunton, a convicted forger, was jailed for contempt on Wednesday for refusing to appear before the grand jury investigating Simpson's friend, Al "A.C." Cowlings. According to Pellicano, Dunton told police he saw the sleuth in a car outside Ms. Simpson's Brentwood home on June 12, the night she and Ronald Goldman were killed.

"I don't think police believe him," Pellicano said. "I think he made the whole thing up to police and when he was called before a grand jury and was put under oath his attorney told him to shut up."

According to the David Van Biema article in Time magazine 9/19/94, a man named John Dunton (described in an article in "Jet" as an ex-convict with a record for forgery) was jailed for refusing to testify in the [Al] Cowlings investigation after claiming on TV that two men killed Nicole and Ron, and that a private eye hired to follow Nicole witnessed the murders. Pellicano then denied that he was the private eye referred to, although Dunton hadn't named him. (At this point Pellicano had been hired by Fuhrman to defend him against claims of planting evidence.)

Graham Brink writes for the [St. Petersburg Times](#) 12/7/00 about Anthony Pellicano:

He says he grew up around Chicago, running with a rough crowd and had trouble in school. He never went to college. In the 1960s he encoded and decoded secret messages as an Army cryptographer. Upon his discharge, he went to work as a bill collector for Spiegel, the mail-order house.

Pellicano parlayed his talent for finding people into a job as an investigator at several Chicago detective agencies. Eventually, he put out his own shingle, specializing in collections and missing persons. He went by the name Tony Fortune.

The local papers followed his successes, showcasing his role in reuniting runaway kids and kidnap victims with their families. After he went bankrupt in the mid 1970s, one of his creditors was the son of a well-known organized crime boss. Pellicano has denied active ties to the mob but admits knowing his share of gangsters.

He moved to Los Angeles in 1983 and made an almost immediate splash. A year earlier, sports car manufacturer John DeLorean had been busted on federal drug charges. Agents had DeLorean on video closing a drug deal. DeLorean was acquitted after Pellicano's analysis of phone lists and audiotapes helped discredit a star government witness.

The case opened a lot of Hollywood doors for Pellicano. It also helped solidify him in the relatively unmined audio analysis business.

Much of what Pellicano calls "help" can safely be described as ethically questionable.

A secretary sues a movie producer [Don Simpson] for \$5-million for subjecting her to cocaine and porn movies. Pellicano steps in, and the case goes away. Sometimes he bypasses the source and hits the messenger. Several entertainment reporters have accused him of trying to intimidate them into killing stories about his clients.

A typical case, as Pellicano told GQ: Drug dealers are preying on a rich kid's addiction. The father hires Pellicano, who talks to the drug dealers . . . with a baseball bat. The dealers don't come around anymore.

.....

Jane Galbraith writes about Pellicano in the 9/1/93 issue of Newsday:

In recent weeks, Pellicano also was hired by a Columbia Pictures executive to find out who'd been spreading rumors linking the executive to Heidi Fleiss...

In the not-so-distant past, Pellicano's name could be found in newspaper stories about how Roseanne Arnold found the daughter she gave up for adoption - she became enraged with him later, believing he sold the story to the National Enquirer - and again in stories disputing the legitimacy of taped conversations between Jennifer Flowers and then-presidential candidate Bill Clinton.

Who is this guy? His business cards say that he does either "private investigation," "electronic surveillance" and / or "negotiations" - he's had three versions printed. His purported expertise in any combination of the above has brought him clients ranging from Kevin Costner to the National Enquirer - and a high-profile status achieved by no other private "dick" working the Tinseltown beat. He's also been dubbed "The Big Sleazy" by GQ magazine - a moniker some say couldn't be more accurate.

"He turns up really spectacular kinds of evidence," said one avowed fan, entertainment lawyer Bertram Fields, who represents not only pop star Jackson but other big names as well. Fields, who hired Pellicano in the Jackson case, credited him with getting the emotional distress suit dismissed against "Beverly Hills Cop" and "Top Gun" producer Don Simpson, whose secretary had claimed he made her schedule appointments with prostitutes and other alleged transgressions.

On the foe side is Jeffrey Wells, a freelance writer covering Hollywood who believes Pellicano tapped his phones when he was doing some investigative reporting on Columbia Pictures executive Michael Nathanson earlier this year.

The Chicago native first made a name for himself in Los Angeles by casting doubt on government tapes as an expert witness for John DeLorean in the former auto maker's 1983 cocaine trial. DeLorean was acquitted - and later claimed Pellicano intimidated government witnesses.

Pellicano, who did not respond to a reporter's requests for an interview, has admitted to resorting to strong-arm tactics. He's bragged about beating somebody with a baseball bat on behalf of a client.

11/14/02

From Reuters, 10/27/02:[A] federal magistrate in Los Angeles denied bail for Alexander Proctor because of his prior drug and burglary convictions and prosecutors' claim that he is a flight risk, Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Saunders said.

Proctor, 58, was arrested outside his West Los Angeles home earlier that day by a team of Los Angeles police and FBI organized crime agents. He was charged with a single charge of interfering with commerce by threats of violence, for allegedly trying to stop the Times and Busch from printing the stories.

If convicted he could receive up to 20 years in jail.

Ned Zeman, a Vanity Fair contributing editor who wrote a feature about the plot, reported being threatened at gunpoint by two men as he drove to his home in Los Angeles. Zeman said that two men in a dark-colored car pulled alongside his car, pointed a gun at him and said, "Stop it" and, "Bang," according to a Vanity Fair spokeswoman. Police so far have not linked the cases. Saunders said he expected more developments in the next few days.

Luke says: I've learned that Proctor is an electronics expert. "Unlicensed private investigator." Proctor's a maven at eavesdropping. PHe works for people like private investigator Anthony Pellicano, who journalist Jeffrey Wells says in 1993 used an electronics device to listen in to his cell phone calls while Wells was investigating the Michael Nathanson - Heidi Fleiss scandal at Columbia Pictures.

Proctor bugged a Jewelry store in Ventura County and figured out when the owner was going to show up with diamonds. Proctor used a bug to rob the guy in a non-violent way. Proctor knew from bugging the owner's phone that he was going to show up at a certain time with diamonds. Proctor then snatched the guy's diamonds.

Two sources have told me that Proctor has ties to tough guy and infamous private eye to the stars Anthony Pellicano. Did Pellicano order Proctor to bust Busch's windshield?

Proctor ain't communicating much with his public defender. He banks that richer and more powerful people will come to his aid.

It looks like there were different people, not Proctor, and not Pellicano, who threatened Vanity Fair reporter Ned Zeman.

I think the people who aimed a gun at Zeman and pulled the trigger (no bullets were fired) were trying to intimidate investigative journalist John Connolly who's published two devastating articles about Steven Seagal in Spy magazine (August 1993) and Penthouse (1998).

According to Barry Levin, defense attorney for producer Julius Nasso, the feds are investigating Steven Seagal for these threats to reporters.

From forensicaudio.com: "Anthony Pellicano is none other than the nation's foremost forensic expert on tape recordings. His expertise proved crucial in sparing automaker John Z. De Lorean from a new career manufacturing license plates. Pellicano also helped expose the infamous eighteen-minute gap on the Nixon Watergate tapes and the extra gunshots during the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas. His expertise is all but irrefutable in a court of law.

"[T]he term forensic audio was coined by Pellicano, who pioneered work in this revolutionary field more than twenty years ago. Pellicano's laboratory in Los Angeles a dazzling array of computers, spectrum analyzers and other electronic gadgets is generally regarded as the finest in the country, rivaling those of top law enforcement and intelligence agencies."

Journalist Stuart Goldman [writes on tabloidbaby.com about a 1990 incident](#):

The Enquirer's chief goon, Anthony Pellicano, ("The Nation's Most Publicized Private Investigator") began a nonstop campaign to hound [Rod] Lurie, [Gavin] de Becker and myself. Pellicano was right out of a bad Fifties B-movie. He loved to do the good cop/bad cop bit. He threatened, he bullied, he wheedled, he cajoled. (At one point, Pellicano sent me a personal check as "hush" money to keep me from incriminating the Enquirer.) When I changed my private telephone number -- which I did frequently -- he'd call just to let me know he'd made the new number (Pellicano enjoyed a rep and expert bug/wire man).

On March 11 [1990?], Rod Lurie was riding his bicycle near his home in Pasadena. An unmarked car (no plates) drove up behind him, suddenly sped up, and whacked Lurie fifty feet into space. The bicycle was instant scrap, and Lurie wound up in the hospital with two broken ribs and a busted back. When I called him after the accident, Lurie was resolute: "It was no accident," he said hoarsely. "That car hit me on purpose. There's absolutely no doubt about it ... I saw the guy veer over and go right for me." I asked him if he had any idea who was behind it. "Lemme put it like this," Lurie said. "The tabloids warned me if I didn't back off I'd be sorry. I think they just made good on their threat."

.....

According [to ispnn.org](#): "Jerry Scalise...[member] of the Joe Ferriola street crew headquartered in Cicero and the adjoining Western Suburbs [in Chicago]... This renewed interest in Jerry Scalise augers well for the clever little thief, at least from the public relations side of things. Reportedly Scalise is preparing to write his memoirs with Los Angeles attorney Anthony Pellicano, himself a Cook County native. Scalise and Rachel undoubtedly hope to cash in with a lucrative movie offer from a Hollywood studio. The 1990 motion picture Good Fellas brought instant fame and recognition to one Henry Hill..."

2/2/98

Washington Weekly: "The Clinton White House has its agents scouring the country digging up dirt on the 24-year-old girl who made claims of a sexual involvement with Bill Clinton. The old Bimbo Eruption Swat Team has gone into overdrive, recruiting private investigator Anthony Pellicano, whose last claim to Clinton damage control fame was his "scientific determination" that the Gennifer Flowers tapes had been edited. (An independent laboratory analysis later confirmed their unedited authenticity) Now Pellicano has resurrected Monica Lewinsky's old drama coach, who did his own Gennifer Flowers number on her just minutes before Clinton's State of the Union Address."

.....

Robert Miller writes 3/10/98 on alt.fan.oj-simpson:

Anthony Pellicano was the private investigator who worked for Mark Fuhrman during the criminal trial. He was sicced on those who would besmirch Mark's otherwise pristine reputation. It was Pellicano who called the woman whose roommate had dated a friend of Fuhrman's and who said that he was a rude racist guy. When she was asked if she'd talked with anyone in the government, she said that Pellicano identified himself as from the government, as I recall. I believe it was Cochran who was questioning her, and both he and Ito agreed, "Let's not go there" regarding Pellicano.

Pellicano worked with Cochran and Weitzman, two of Simpson's attorneys during this ordeal, when they represented Michael Jackson in the child molestation lawsuit. As we all know, that was settled but Jackson's reputation was besmirched. Nice job, guys. Well, Pellicano turned up in front of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, the same august body that Drs. Michael Baden and Werner Spitz worked on. All three worked to disprove that a conspiracy was involved in the murder of JFK. During the discussion about the acoustical testimony surrounding the DPD tape made the day that Kennedy was shot in Dealey Plaza, Pellicano presented one of several critiques disputing the evidence of more than three shots.

In the book CONTRACT ON AMERICA by David E. Scheim, the following: "The first [critique] was presented unsolicited by Anthony Pellicano, a private investigator from Chicago who subsequently handled a controversial tape for the defense of auto maker John DeLorean that was leaked to the press by Hustler Magazine publisher Larry Flynt. Pellicano's criticisms were disposed of by Dr. Barger in subsequent testimony before the House Committee."

In Livingstone and Groden's HIGH TREASON, the authors state that before his appearance in front of the HSCA, he had testified that the 18 and 1/2 minute gap in one of the Watergate tapes was accidental. Also, you guys may remember that it was Judge Ito who sat on the bench during the DeLorean trial. Does anyone out there know why Anthony Pellicano's unsolicited testimony was taken by the HSCA? Or what position he held to be able to give his two bits about the 18 and 1/2 minute gap?

The Pellicano Brief

Rod Lurie writes in the February 1992 issue of Los Angeles Magazine:

My wife's private line rang. A minute later she returned, slightly ashen, and said an "old friend" was calling.

When I took the phone, he didn't introduce himself. He didn't have to - I recognized his voice immediately.

"I thought I'd never have to call you again," Anthony Pellicano said.

The last time I heard from Pellicano was a year and a half ago, while I was working on a story for this magazine called "I was on the Enquirer's Hit List." Pellicano, a notorious private detective, had been hired by the National Enquirer to "discourage" my story. He was the man who Assistant U.S.

Attorney James Hatch claimed had intimidated government witnesses in the

Attorney James Walsh claimed had intimidated government witnesses in the John DeLorean case and who, in a recent issue of GQ, bragged he'd beaten somebody with a baseball bat on behalf of a client. Pellicano had said he'd killed "hundreds" of stories and strongly suggested I drop mine.

"What do you want?" I asked him.

"What do I want?" he said, as if the answer were ludicrously obvious. There was a small pause. "Don R... [Pellicano's attorney Don Re?] where...Don...Pellicano wants his job...call Patrick about Norm and relationship to Pellicano...."

I was stunned. Pellicano was reading from the notes I had compiled during my current investigation into the Enquirer. "This is libelous," he said with a drawl. "I spoke to Don. R. He's one of my best friends. He says he never spoke to you... I'm going to subpoena all your notes... You've brought yourself a lawsuit, pal."

"Where did you get my notes?"

"Would you tell me your sources? So why would I tell you mine?"

As I was soon to find out, Pellicano had paid my research assistant \$3000 for the notes. Not only that, the Star, which the Enquirer had purchased in 1990, had given my assistant a check for \$500 to monitor the progress of my article.

[John Connolly](#) writes in the February 1994 issue of Los Angeles Magazine:

Early last summer, I received a telephone call from [Anthony Pellicano](#), who informed me that he was working for Steven Seagal, about whom I had just written an unflattering article for Spy magazine. Pellicano said he was "going to get" me and then began tirade, calling me every name in the book and linking some curse words in couplets I had never heard before. I interrupted him long enough to ask if he always spoke to people he had never met in such an obnoxious manner. He responded by screaming that I was a "cockroach" and went on to say I should be glad I was in New York and not on his turf in L.A. I asked Pellicano if he was always a tough guy. "I'm not only a tough guy," he said, "I'm connected to the right people, you asshole."

I concluded the conversation by telling Pellicano the date of my arrival and the hotel I would be staying at during my next trip to L.A. and suggested he bring his famed Louisville Slugger. He never showed.

On September 14, 1989, a 31-year old African-American clerk named Deryl Brown was summoned to the personnel office at Paramount, where he'd worked for seven years. The director escorted Brown into a private room and introduced him to another man, whom he said was an attorney. According to a later complaint Brown filed in superior court against Paramount and Pellicano [which was later settled quickly by Paramount], the director then left the room.

The complaint said the "attorney" then accused Brown of conspiring with a female coworker to sell drugs and steal valuable company memorabilia. When Brown protested, he was told that unless he admitted his guilt, he would be both fired and prosecuted. "You're in deep shit, asshole!" Brown says the man screamed at him. "You don't want to make an enemy of me." When he tried to leave, the lawyer blocked the doorway and, said Brown's attorney, Helena Wise, "made racial slurs," saying Brown couldn't afford to live in the neighborhood he did unless he was dealing drugs. After a half hour, he was allowed to leave.

Brown later identified the attorney as Pellicano...hired by one of Paramount's biggest producers, Don Simpson, to help out in a suit filed against him by a Paramount secretary, Monica Harmon. ...Pellicano had leaned on [Brown] to testify against Harmon's character. Pellicano also tracked down a former Paramount page, Patrick Winberg, who had moved back to his hometown in Minnesota. Pellicano "talked" the page into returning to California and testifying in depositions that he had given cocaine to Harmon. Pellicano paid for Winberg's airfare and stay at Westwood Marquis. Winberg told me, however, that Pellicano had paid him \$11,000 and promised to double that amount but never made the second payment.

...[I] 1990 when Rod Lurie was researching his Los Angeles magazine piece on how the National Enquirer gets its information. Lurie got a call from Pellicano, who identified himself as a private investigator working for the Enquirer. Indeed, as Lurie recalls, Pellicano said, "I am the Enquirer." He demanded to know the identity of Lurie's source at the tabloid. When Lurie termed in the article a threatening manner, "I am relentless." In the ensuing months, Pellicano lived up to that image. He called Lurie on his unlisted phone number, bad-mouthed him to his sources, accused him of extortion and threatened him with a "nuisance suit" to block the article's publication. The piece was published without further incident, but the following year, when Lurie was working on another Los Angeles story about tabloid dirty tricks, he again crossed paths with Pellicano. Lurie was told by his assistant that Pellicano had approached him and asked him to spy on Lurie. Although the assistant said he turned Pellicano down, Lurie remained suspicious.

The next day, he fabricated some notes about the Enquirer and asked the assistant to type them into the computer. Two days later, he got a call from Pellicano, who smugly read to him the very notes he had written. Late last summer, I tracked down the assistant, who admitted in a taped interview that Pellicano had paid him \$3,000 for the notes. But Pellicano wanted to be sure he was getting his money's worth. To guarantee the assistant wouldn't try to pass off counterfeit information, Pellicano threatened him. According to the assistant, Pellicano said, "I make a living knowing if somebody's bullshitting me! I can look up a bull's asshole and give you the price of butter." Then, pointing to a blue aluminum baseball bat in the corner of his office, Pellicano told the assistant, "Guys who fuck with me get to meet my buddy over there in the corner."

Matt Lait and Scott Glover write in the 11/22/02 LA Times:

A man charged with threatening a Los Angeles Times reporter who was researching the relationship between Steven Seagal and an alleged Mafia associate told an informant for the FBI that Seagal was behind the threat, according to court documents.

Alexander Proctor, a 59-year-old ex-convict charged with threatening reporter [Anita Busch](#), allegedly told the informant during secretly recorded conversations that he had been hired to carry out the threat by Anthony Pellicano, known as the private detective to the stars. [I reported most of this 11/13. I know the name of the informant, a man with ties to the Russian mob.]

According to the FBI, Proctor told the informant that Seagal had hired Pellicano to threaten the reporter. "He wanted to make it look like the Italians were putting the hit on her so it wouldn't reflect on Seagal," Proctor told the informant, according to a search warrant affidavit filed by an FBI agent assigned to the case.

On Thursday, more than a dozen FBI agents searched Pellicano's West Hollywood office. An FBI spokesman, Matt McLaughlin, said Pellicano had been arrested in connection with what appeared to be explosive materials discovered in his office during the search. He is expected to appear before a federal magistrate today, McLaughlin said. [I named Pellicano a suspect 11/13 and wrote that he had close ties to Proctor.]

One federal law enforcement source close to the case said that "at this time, other than Proctor's uncorroborated statements, there is no independent evidence that Seagal was involved in the threat made to the reporter." The source added that investigators were still assessing Proctor's credibility and possible motives.

An attorney for Seagal said his client had no involvement in the June 20 threat against the reporter, who woke up that morning and found a dead fish, a rose and a note attached to her car windshield, which had been punctured. The note was a one-word message: "Stop."

Before he was handcuffed, Pellicano declined to comment. As a celebrity sleuth with a star-studded clientele, he has cultivated a tough-guy image. He hands out paperweights to reporters saying, "Sometimes ... you just have to play hardball."

Proctor, who was being held at the Metropolitan Detention Center in downtown Los Angeles without bail, has pleaded not guilty in the case. His attorney, Victor Cannon, could not be reached for comment.

According to court documents, Proctor told the informant that he owed Pellicano \$14,000 and agreed to intimidate Busch for \$10,000. But after the job was done, Proctor said, "they" were so pleased with his work that Pellicano agreed to wipe out his remaining debt.

Proctor allegedly told the informant that he was supposed to "blow up" Busch's car as a warning so she would stop reporting on the story about Seagal. But he said it would have been too difficult to set her car ablaze, because she lived near an apartment complex. He said Busch also had a neighbor who stayed up late at night, and he was apparently afraid he would be seen.

In the end, Proctor allegedly told the informant that he bought the fish and rose and placed them on Busch's car, putting a bullet hole in the windshield and taping the cardboard sign to it.

After Busch's car was vandalized, she told authorities she thought the incident was related to her investigative work on an article about Seagal and his former producing partner, Julius Nasso, who had a bitter business fallout with the film star.

According to federal authorities, Nasso is an associate of the Gambino crime family. He was indicted earlier this year, along with other reputed mob figures, in connection with a plot to extort money from Seagal. He has pleaded not guilty.

Seagal is scheduled to testify next year as a prosecution witness at the trials of several alleged mobsters and Nasso in Brooklyn. Last month, Nasso's attorney alleged in a court document that Seagal might have been involved in the threat against Busch, and that could reflect on the actor's credibility as a witness.

Proctor's taped statements to the informant are detailed in a 21-page application for a search warrant [to search Proctor's residence].

According to the FBI, the agency's informant was facing criminal charges of his own, including mail fraud, at the time he agreed to cooperate with the investigation of Proctor.

The day after Busch's car was vandalized, the informant called the reporter, saying he knew who was responsible. He said Proctor at that time told him he had vandalized the car and was working for guys "back East" who were ruthless and wanted Busch to back off her story.

The informant then agreed to wear a concealed recording device while trying to coax out more details about the plot from Proctor.

During a July 3 meeting with the informant, Proctor reportedly said he had actually carried out the threats against Busch on behalf of Seagal, not ruthless men from back East.

According to the court documents, Proctor talked to Pellicano on several occasions. There is no indication in the documents that he ever met with

Seagal.

According to prosecutors, Proctor is an ex-convict with burglary and narcotics-related convictions. He is charged with interfering with commerce by threats of violence. If convicted, he faces a maximum of 20 years in prison.

11/23/02

Hillary's Private Eye Arrested in Reporter Intimidation Case

I found this on a Rush Limbaugh newsgroup:

A California private detective who worked to discredit Clinton Sexgate accusers Monica Lewinsky and Gennifer Flowers has been arrested in connection with attempts to intimidate a reporter for the Los Angeles Times after the FBI caught him with an arsenal of explosives.

[Anthony J. Pellicano](#) was arrested Thursday after a search of his office by a dozen FBI agents turned up an "array of explosives," reported New York's Daily News on Saturday.

In February, New York Sen. Hillary Clinton was alleged to have hired Pellicano in 1992 in an attempt to discredit Gennifer Flowers' claims of a twelve year affair with Mr. Clinton.

The episode bears an eerie resemblance to the account of Clinton sex-accuser Sally Perdue, who told the London Telegraph in 1994 that after she was threatened with physical violence, her car windshield was broken and spent shotgun shell was left on the seat. Perdue abruptly relocated to China a few months after talking to the Telegraph, shortly after Paula Jones sued Mr. Clinton for sexual harassment.

Though Pellicano's name never surfaced in connection with Perdue's allegations, he reportedly played a key role in attempts to discredit both Monica Lewinsky and Gennifer Flowers.

Four days after the Lewinsky story broke in Jan. 1998, ex-Lewinsky boyfriend Andy Bleiler came forward with the claim that she had stalked him. The Washington state school teacher also contended that Lewinsky wanted to become a White House intern so she could perform oral sex on then-President Clinton. "I'm going to Washington to get my presidential knee pads," Bleiler's lawyer, Terry Giles, quoted Lewinsky as saying.

"Anthony Pellicano, the L.A.-based private investigator and O.J. defense team veteran [was] responsible for digging up Andy Bleiler," the New York Post's Andrea Peyser reported days later.

Sexgate provocateur Lucianne Goldberg told Peyser that Pellicano's services were bought and paid for by the Clinton White House. When Peyser confronted the Los Angeles private detective with Goldberg's claim, he didn't deny it. "You're a smart girl. No comment," Pellicano told the Post reporter.

Digging up Bleiler's "presidential kneepads" story wasn't the first time Pellicano had gone to bat for the Clintons. According to Ron Kessler's 1995 best-seller, "Inside the White House," Clinton's first presidential campaign relied on Pellicano's expertise in the field of audio analysis to discredit Gennifer Flowers' smoking gun tapes. "The Clinton camp made much of the fact that Anthony J. Pellicano, an expert on audio recording analysis, had told the press that a twelve-minute portion of the tape of conversations between Flowers and Clinton had been 'selectively edited' at two points," Kessler reported.

To counter Pellicano's claims, Flowers submitted her recordings to Truth Verification Labs, which found them to be 100 percent authentic. In 1999 Flowers filed a defamation suit against Clinton campaign officials James Carville and George Stephanopoulos - along with then-first lady Hillary Clinton - based on their attempts to use Pellicano's analysis to discredit her.

During a February court appearance, the head of Flowers' legal team, Judicial Watch Chairman Larry Klayman, told the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, "Anthony Pellicano was a private investigator hired by Mrs. Clinton herself. And he's the one who did the analysis of the tapes."

Of the more than two dozen media reports on Pellicano's Thursday arrest so far, none have mentioned his ties to the Clinton attack machine.

11/28/02

(Reuters) A celebrity private detective... was released from a federal jail on bail on Wednesday in an unrelated illegal weapons possession case.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Fernando Olguin rejected prosecutors' argument that Anthony Pellicano, 58, represented a public threat because he had two live grenades and enough plastic explosives to blow up an airliner in a safe in his office, and ordered Pellicano released on \$400,000 bond.

Pellicano has been jailed without bail since his arrest on Nov. 22. On Wednesday, a rumpled Pellicano walked jauntily into U.S. District Court in Los Angeles in jail-issue blue pants and a green top with his hands chained to his waist.

A number of the city's most prominent lawyers who have used Pellicano's sleuthing services wrote letters to the court to plead for his release for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Dan Saunders asked the judge to lock up Pellicano without bail based on the gravity of the weapons possession charge and Proctor's allegations.

"What was he doing with those bombs?" Saunders said. "We believe his possession of those weapons of death and mass destruction meets the showing of dangerousness."

Pellicano's attorney, Donald Re, argued that his client, who had no criminal record and a long relationship with local law enforcement as an expert in analyzing tape recordings,

should be released on bail.

"His background with law enforcement is enough to demonstrate that he is trustworthy," Re told the judge. "And the outpouring of letters after his arrest from the best legal talent in town."

The judge ordered Pellicano to hand over his passport and restricted his travel to Los Angeles and Orange Counties. He set a Dec. 17 preliminary hearing.

12/25/02

More People Going Down In [Steven Seagal - Anthony Pellicano](#) Investigation

I hear that Steven Seagal had calls placed to the brother of John Gotti, Peter Gotti, to help him with his former producing partner [Julius Nasso](#).

More of Pellicano's guys are going to get arrested. Pellicano is friendly with various people suspected of belonging to the Mafia like Ronald "Ronnie" Lorenzo, who owns a pizza place in Brentwood and the restaurant Splash in Malibu. Ronnie, who's spent ten years in prison, is suspected to be the main Los Angeles player in the Bonanno family. Ronnie is best friends with actor James Caan and actor Frank Sivero. Sivero is a real hood. He used to collect money for Joe Isgro.

There are videotapes of Sivero with Ronnie Lorenzo and porn star Tabitha Stevens.

James Caan offered his home as collateral toward the \$2-million bail for Lorenzo and appeared as a character witness for his dear friend.

[From nlpc.org](#): In 1993, reputed mobster Ronnie Lorenzo was sentenced to 11 years in federal prison in Los Angeles for drug trafficking. A federal jury convicted Lorenzo of conspiracy and distribution of cocaine in two 1990 deals with FBI informant Robert Franchi. Lorenzo reportedly trusted Franchi due to their mutual friends in Raymond L.S. Patriarca's organized-crime family in New England. Authorities believe Lorenzo is a member of the Bonanno crime family. See: Paul Lieberman, "Inside Hollywood Mike's Crew," L.A. Times Apr. 14, 1996. According to DOJ's draft RICO complaint against LIUNA, "The Bonanno family...is headquartered in New York City and operates in various other locations in the United States. The Bonanno family is [a] New York City LCN family...." [Robert D.J. Luskin represented Lorenzo on an appeal that Lorenzo lost on Oct. 8, 1998.]

From [Konformist.com](#): During the trial of [\[Joey\] Ippolito](#) and [\[Ronald\] Lorenzo](#) (the two were tried together), the Los Angeles Times had reporters covering the entire thing, and yet, strangely, the news reports only mentioned Lorenzo by name. In a Spy magazine article titled "Cafe Nostra", by [John Connolly](#) (who had the best early investigative coverage of [Danny Casolaro](#)'s death and what is now known as The Octopus), Ippolito was mentioned by name. The story, about the strong connections between the Mafia and major players in Hollywood, was listed as "Part I in a series of articles." The issue, from March 1994, was the last issue before the sudden unexpected shut-down of Spy, which happened almost immediately after the publication of the issue. The official reason was money, but there was no warning signs of financial problems, and the magazine was as popular as ever. Spy returned a few months later under new ownership, a pathetic shell of what it once was, providing glib satire without bite. The other parts of the series of articles by Connolly were, unsurprisingly, absent from the new Spy.

3/03 GQ by John Brodie

"I think I am going to jail," [Anthony Pellicano] said when we spoke in December. "I think I'm going to jail for a long time. If the prosecutor were of the mind to treat this in a fair manner, this would be a misdemeanor possession and I would be allowed to retain my license and continue my business." Then he added somewhat ominously, "But there's *somebody in the background* that's pushing this felony conviction, and I don't know why."

Documents generated by L.A.-based FBI agents portray Pellicano as an operative of Seagal's who was hung out to dry. New York-based law enforcement sources and Seagal's own attorney spin a different tale: They claim members of the Gambino crime family orchestrated the fish-and-rose tableau to destroy the action hero's credibility before he could testify against them in an upcoming federal racketeering trial. ...The greater mystery is why the government has not arrested anyone for setting in motion the attack on Anita Busch. [LF: Because the government doesn't want to reveal Busch's ties to government intelligence agents?]

James P. Walsh, the United States attorney who prosecuted the case, notes that when Pellicano (in his role [on the John Delorean 1984 case] as the defense team's tape expert) examined the videotapes at the FBI's lab in Washington, a confrontation just happened to break out between Pellicano and an agent in the room. "In the course of that, Mr. Pellicano damaged in a small way one of the tapes. In other words, there was a small puncture that was put into one of the original tapes," said Walsh, noting that the tape was almost rendered unusable.

Nevertheless, on the night of August 26, Vanity Fair writer Ned Zeman had eaten at Il Sole, an Italian place on the Sunset Strip, and was driving his Saab 9-3 home up Laurel Canyon when a flashing light appeared in his rearview mirror. He pulled over. Zeman had recently finished an article about the rancorous professional divorce between Steven Seagal and Julius Nasso...

None of this crossed Zeman's mind as a dark Mercedes-Benz with tinted windows pulled up alongside him. The journalist reached under his seat, where he normally kept his wallet. As he lifted his head back above the dashboard, the passenger-side window of the Mercedes rolled down, and Zeman was confronted by a man pointing a semiautomatic pistol at his head. "Stop," came a voice from inside the car.

Zeman ducked, thinking he had a road-rage idiot on his hands. He heard the assailant pull the trigger, but there was no bullet in the chamber, and the gun just clicked. A voice from within the Mercedes said "Bam!" or "Bang!" and then the car sped off.

The whole incident lasted five seconds.

As Zeman waited for the police to arrive, he thought about a G.I. Joe doll he had found in his front yard a few days earlier. The doll was missing a head.

Steven Seagal's longtime lawyer Martin Singer says Seagal has nothing to do with Pellicano...

Anthony says he hates Seagal. "First of all, Steven Seagal is an enemy of mine and has been for seven years. I can't stand the piece of shit. He's a rat cocksucker. Nobody's going to believe that I did this for Seagal," Pellicano said, his voice bubbling to a crescendo at the perceived injustice of it all. "Number one, I didn't do it for Seagal. Number two, if I was going to intimidate somebody, I'm not gonna put a fish on their car. I'm going to be in their face like I've been all my life."

Other L.A. private investigators are troubled by Pellicano's version of events, noting that the work for Gorry Meyer & Rudd would have put him back into Seagal's orbit. In the past, Pellicano has been accused of playing one side of a case against the other. Nili Grevillius, a former Pinkerton agent and a rival investigator, interviewed the parking valets at Pellicano's office building last fall. As Grevillius states, 'I asked them, 'Say, didn't I see that actor Steven Seagal over here the other day?'' And they said, 'Oh yeah, he comes here all the time.' Now, I was standing right next to Pellicano's Mercedes convertible, which has a special spot next to the valet-parking area, and they nodded to Pellicano's car when I looked at it. The night before Thanksgiving, I was talking to the security guard in the lobby, and I affected the mien of a rube and said, 'Gee, didn't I see Steven Seagal in here the other day?' And the security guard said, 'Oh yeah, yeah, he's here all the time. In fact, his private detective is upstairs. and he's the one who got in trouble.'"

But the government does not seem in any hurry to move past Pellicano and up the evidentiary chain - at least until Seagal has finished singing in the Gambino trial. According to Seagal's attorney, neither the FBI nor the LAPD has questioned his client in connection with the attacks on the journalists, nor has the FBI requested Seagal's bank or phone records. As of press time, no one has been arrested in connection with the attack on Zeman. The FBI scheduled, then postponed, a lineup.

3/4/03

Anthony Pellicano Going Down

XXX says: Earlier this week, we learned that because of a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling, the charges against [Alexander Proctor](#) for damaging the car of journalist [Anita Busch](#) are being thrown out. According to the government informant, Proctor was acting for Pellicano on behalf of his client [Steven Seagal](#).

Now it looks like nobody is going to be charged over the threats to Busch and Vanity Fair's Ned Zeman. But Pellicano is still going down for other things. His career is finished and he faces ten years in jail.

If it would not have been the Hobbes Act, the Proctor case would've fallen down for any number of reasons.

After the feds busted Pellicano for illegal possession of explosives, the FBI (and some to the prosecutors in the downtown) started getting phone calls. They got fantastic leads about illegal things Pellicano has done.

Pellicano is going to be indicted any day now. He was supposed to have been indicted over the explosives last week.

Pellicano was never tied into the Anita Busch thing except by the snitch and the resulting search warrant and affidavit. The feds hoped to get enough stuff on Pellicano to bust him for the Hobbes Act stuff.

The threats to Busch and Zeman will end up as a small footnote to the whole Seagal-Pellicano-Nasso thing.

We don't know who threatened Zeman. Barry Levin has theories that it was a relative of Seagal's.

It was a total accident that the Pellicano-Seagal connection ever got in the paper. There was an early search warrant and affidavit filed for Proctor's arrest. That was supposed to be sealed. It had the wrong address on Proctor. So they had to get a new warrant. They put the old one in the file and forgot that it was public.

American Movie Classics is covering all bases in their documentary on this drama. Everyone spoke to them except Steven Seagal. They've got Elie Samaha, screenwriters, directors. The documentary used to do HBO Undercover and they nailed it.

From the 3/1/03 LA Times:

Federal prosecutors moved Friday to dismiss an indictment charging a Southern California man with threatening a Los Angeles Times reporter who was researching the relationship between actor Steven Seagal and a reputed Mafia associate.

Originally, prosecutors charged that Proctor's alleged actions amounted to interfering with interstate commerce by threats of violence, a violation of the federal Hobbs Act. But this week, the Supreme Court ruled in another case that the Hobbs Act applies only when force is used to obtain property.

But even as they asked for a dismissal of the indictment against Proctor, prosecutors filed a criminal complaint Friday charging the ex-convict with conspiracy to distribute cocaine. If convicted under the new complaint, he faces up to five years in prison. Some of the evidence for the new charge was uncovered during the investigation of the alleged threats.

3/13/03

From LATimes.com:

Hollywood private detective Anthony Pellicano, who has represented some

of the biggest stars in show business, faces possible indictment on charges of widespread illegal wiretapping and witness intimidation, backed by threats and occasional violence, a federal prosecutor said in court Wednesday.

What began as an investigation into a threat against a Los Angeles Times reporter has grown into a large-scale probe involving other potential victims, said Assistant U.S. Atty. Daniel Saunders.

Saunders said FBI agents have obtained the names of a number of people, including some lawyers, who hired Pellicano to conduct illicit wiretaps or secure the silence of potential witnesses.

He said the FBI has also identified the computer software Pellicano allegedly used to tap into telephones, his contact at the telephone company and a corrupt law enforcement officer who assisted him.

Saunders made the disclosures during an unsuccessful prosecution attempt to revoke Pellicano's \$400,000 bail on an unrelated charge of possessing explosives. U.S. District Judge Dickran Tevrizian said he wanted to see sworn affidavits from some of the government's witnesses before deciding whether to revoke Pellicano's bond.

4/28/03

[Anthony Pellicano](#) Drama

XXX says: Even though they've dismissed federal charges against [Alexander Proctor](#) for terrorizing Los Angeles Times journalist [Anita Busch](#), this case ain't over.

When law enforcement tossed [Anthony Pellicano](#)'s office on Sunset Boulevard and found the illegal grenades, they also found evidence of wire-tapping. That Pellicano had been wire-tapping people on behalf of clients. There's a Grand Jury investigating this. Some prominent Los Angeles entertainment attorneys have been subpoenaed to appear and they are most uncomfortable about doing so.

Journalist [John Connolly](#) is working on a book on Anthony Pellicano called The Bad Detective.

Journalists who've been terrorized by Pellicano include Jeff Wells, Rod Lurie and Stuart Goldman.

Pellicano may be involved with the Max Factor heir (Andrew Luster, 39) who fled in anticipation of going to prison. Proctor told the FBI's informant that he was going to be paid \$100,000 to help a criminal defendant flee the country.

There's a connection between Pellicano and Bill Pavlick, the unlicensed private investigator Luster used in his defense - Steven Seagal (as referenced in the March Esquire story on Pellicano). Seagal claimed he was using Pavlick for his investigations rather than Pellicano. That's a set-up.

Pavlick is a fired LAPD officer who drew a psycho pension. He worked as an unlicensed investigator on the OJ Simpson and Phil Spector cases. Pavlick is under investigation by the state of California for unlicensed activities. He's supposed to get a PI's license to do what he does.

Steven Seagal is an angry child. I believe he hired Pellicano who hired Proctor to intimidate Busch. I believe Seagal is passive-aggressive and wants to anonymously lash out at people and Pellicano is the ideal vehicle for that sort of aggression.

Seagal's friendships with law enforcement are on a superficial level. The FBI regards him as a punk and a sissy. Seagal had good relations with US Customs for a long time and he functioned as a reserve US customs agent so he could carry a gun all over the country. But Seagal burned that connection out by acting like a schmuck in Santa Barbara. You might recall a story about seven years ago about Seagal date-rape his 15-year old babysitter. That burned out his law enforcement connections.

His current connections with law enforcement have more to do with his problems with the Gambino crime family. I doubt Seagal will go down for the Busch threats.

Proctor could still go down in state court. The state's version of the penal code for extortion is different from the federal version.

I don't think Proctor will ever give Seagal up. I don't think Proctor ever met Seagal.

I don't think Pellicano will give anyone up unless he's facing 20-years in prison. I expect Pellicano to serve three or four years.

Pellicano is a neurotic angry control freak. His career is over. The feds have wanted him for a long time since he screwed them over the John DeLorean case in 1983.

Marty Singer pits tabloids against each other. He'll kill stories by promising he will get them a better story.

From the BBC: The great grandson of Max Factor, Mr Luster was arrested after a woman he met went to the police alleging he had spiked her drink with the so-called "date rape" drug, Gamma-Hydroxybutyrate (GHB).

When detectives raided his home, they say they found 17 videotapes or Mr Luster having sex with apparently unconscious women, many of whom have yet to be identified. Detectives were reportedly investigating whether he could have been part of an international ring of playboy millionaires said to be known as the Bachelors, who trade film of their date rape attacks over the internet.

Several years ago a British woman claimed that she had fallen victim to such a gang, telling police she had been raped in a London hotel after GHB was slipped into her drink.

Mr Luster has consistently denied the charges against him, claiming the women on the videotapes were engaged in consensual sex.

6/4/03

