

Timing of immigration raid disputed

E-mail shows ID program adopted, then feds swooped in

By John Christoffersen
Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — An e-mail sent by local immigration officials to their agency head the day after the city adopted an ID program for illegal immigrants suggests that the timing of a raid soon after was not coincidental, the city’s mayor said.

Regional Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers told agency Director Julie Myers in a June 5 e-mail that New Haven’s Board of Aldermen had voted 25-1 the previous night to make the city the nation’s first to offer illegal immigrants ID cards. City officials said the cards would help immigrants better

integrate into mainstream culture by allowing them access to bank accounts and other services.

On June 6, ICE agents swept through the city and detained an estimated 30 illegal immigrants. Critics contend that the raid was retaliation for the city’s adoption of the ID program — a charge the agency has steadfastly denied.

In the e-mail to Myers, obtained by the Associated Press through a federal Freedom of Information Act request, agents wrote that because of the recent vote, the raid would likely draw significant news coverage.

“They self-evidently were following what was happen-

ing in New Haven,” Mayor John DeStefano said. “And at some level it had to have been a factor in their thinking to proceed with the raid. Otherwise why else would they have noted it?”

Yale law professor Michael Wishnie, who is representing those detained free of charge, said that while the e-mail to Myers doesn’t prove retaliation, “it does suggest an awareness that doing the raid on June 6 would likely draw attention and they wanted to be prepared to respond to that expected attention. It certainly casts doubt on the statements that the raid had nothing to do with the ID program.”

CHRISTIAN BRANDO: 1958-2008

Eldest son of famous actor

By Robert Jablon
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Christian Brando, the troubled eldest son of the late actor Marlon Brando, has died from pneumonia at a Los Angeles hospital, an attorney said Saturday. He was 49.

Brando died Saturday morning at Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center, said David Seeley, an attorney representing Marlon Brando’s estate. Seeley said Brando was taken to the hospital on Jan. 11.

Born on May 11, 1958, Brando was a high school dropout and never had much of a career. He had small roles in a handful of movies,



Brando

including 1968’s “I Love You, Alice B. Toklas!” but he was better known for his brushes with the law.

He spent five years in prison after pleading guilty to manslaughter in 1990 for killing his sister’s boyfriend, Dag Drollet, at the Brando family’s hilltop estate.

Brando said he accidentally shot Drollet as they struggled for a gun during an argument over whether Drollet, 26, had beaten Brando’s pregnant half-sister, Cheyenne.

In a 1991 interview with the Los Angeles Times, Brando said he never intended to kill Drollet, but wanted to scare him. “I just sat there and watched the life go out of this guy,” Brando said.

At his son’s trial, Marlon Brando pleaded for leniency, telling the court: “I think that perhaps I failed as a father.”

Brando’s ex-wife, Deborah Brando, sued him for domestic violence in 2005. She claimed that shortly after their 2004 marriage, Brando repeatedly beat her and threatened to kill her in the presence of her teenage daughter.

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Headlands Institute: Nature's classroom helps to connect local youth with the natural world

Children who spend time outdoors are believed to develop increased concentration, memory, creativity, and are more likely to have lifelong good health. Research shows a clear connection between time spent in nature and good grades. Children are spending less time in nature because of distractions like television and video games. This effect has been dubbed "Nature Deficit Disorder" and there is a growing concert that it's having an adverse effect on our children's development.

Headlands Institute is a local non-profit working to reverse this trend. For more than 30 years, the non-profit has been working to connect people with the natural world through science-based environmental educational programming for students and teachers.

Last summer, Coastal Camp at Headlands Institute was launched to help Bay Area youth deepen their connection to the natural world. This summer day-camp combines marine and coastal ecology themes with hands-on educational activities to provide exciting discoveries in the great outdoors.

"We believe that every child should have an opportunity to directly learn about the environment," said Laurel Talbot, Executive Director of Headlands Institute.

"Children we bring to our programs are going to be the next generation stewards of our environment. Many children would never have this kind of life-changing opportunity without the support of community-minded organizations like Wells Fargo."

With the support from organizations like Wells Fargo, Headlands Institute is able to serve low-income and underserved communities by reaching out to thousands of youth with special opportunities to learn about nature.

Oakland Youth from Think College Now Elementary School with Wells Fargo and Headlands Institute executives. Top row left to right: Chris Crew, Headlands Institute field science educator; Aaron Rich, Headlands Institute marketing director; Laurel Talbot, Headlands Institute executive director; Brenda Tuohy, Think College Now Elementary School teacher; Chaya Kranz, Headlands Institute field science educator. Middle row left to right: Herb Myers, Wells Fargo San Francisco Bay regional business banking president; Dan Hilken, Wells Fargo Wealth Management regional sales manager; David Galasso, Wells Fargo Marin-Golden Gate region president.

Headlands Institute counts on the generous donations of individuals and businesses to help Bay Area youth connect with the natural world and become the next generation of stewards of our planet. If you would like to help youth connect with the natural world and learn about science and the environment, please visit www.HeadlandsInstitute.org or call (415) 332-5771.

"Wells Fargo is proud to support the Headlands Institute," said David Galasso, Wells Fargo Regional President for Marin County and Headlands Institute board member. "The Headlands Institute does amazing work and is instrumental in helping to preserve our environment as well as teaching our youth to be the leaders of tomorrow."

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