

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 04/20/2008

To: Sacramento

Attn: [redacted]

From: Sacramento
Bakersfield RA
Contact: SSRA [redacted]

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Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] dpg

Case ID #: [redacted] (Pending [redacted])
188-SC-C30338 (Pending) - 877

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Title: BAKERSFIELD RESIDENT AGENCY
CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM
CRITICAL LIAISON CONTACTS

ISLAMIC CENTER OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
701 Ming Avenue
Bakersfield, California
January 20, 2008
April 4, 2008

SIKH OUTREACH
SIKH GURDWARA
8601 South H Street,
Bakersfield, California
February 17, 2008

SIKH HARVEST FESTIVAL
1440 Weedpatch Highway,
Bakersfield, California
April 5, 2008

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
SACRAMENTO DIVISION

Synopsis: Civil Rights and National Security related outreach with the Bakersfield area Islamic and Sikh communities.

Details: On January 20, 2008, writer was joined by SAC Drew S. Parenti, ASAC [redacted] and United States Attorney McGregor Scott in providing a presentation on the FBI's National Security, Civil Rights, and criminal investigative responsibilities. The meeting was coordinated by [redacted] a member of the Masjid Al

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Farooq Mosque at 615 Kentucky Avenue in Bakersfield, telephone, (661) 324-1380. [redacted] was joined by the majority of the 13 members of the Permanent Committee which provides organizational leadership to both the Masjid Al Farooq Mosque and the Islamic Center of the San Joaquin Valley located at 701 Ming Avenue in Bakersfield, telephone, (661) 836-9055. Membership of the Permanent Committee consists [redacted] the Committee, both Imams- Mohammed Al-Durrah (Kentucky) and Mohammed Abdel-Fattah (Ming), 3 additional members from each mosque, and 4 additional members selected by [redacted] [redacted] is a member of the Permanent Committee. [redacted] advised the Shoura Council consists of the Permanent Committee members and any other mosque attendees who wish to attend Shoura Council meetings held on a monthly basis.

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The meeting was attended by approximately 30-40 individuals and each of SAC Parent, ASAC [redacted] USA Scott, and writer provided brief comments and answered questions posed by attendees from both of the aforementioned mosques.

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On April 4, 2008, writer, SA [redacted] and [redacted] re-visited the Islamic Center of the San Joaquin Valley for a follow-up discussion regarding concerns of the local Islamic community about being subjects of investigations and/or surveillance. Attendees also requested information regarding the sorts of information that might be of investigative interest to [redacted] and how they can best provide reporting of suspicious incidents to the FBI. Approximately 15-20 members of both the Kentucky Street and Ming Avenue Mosques attended the meeting. The meeting was part of a continuing effort by the Bakersfield Resident Agency (BRA) to have dialogue with the Islamic community in Kern County.

On February 17, 2008, writer attended a Sikh community soccer tournament and picnic held at the Gurdwara located at 8601 South H Street in Bakersfield. Writer attended at the invitation of [redacted] a local prominent Sikh community leader, telephone [redacted]. Among attendees was [redacted] who expressed an interest in forming a community partnership between Law Enforcement representatives and the Sikh Community similar to that with which he had been involved with in Los Angeles until his relocation to Bakersfield. Writer was also introduced to [redacted] a local contractor, who spoke during the activities about the friendship between the Muslim and Sikh communities in Bakersfield.

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Writer was provided an opportunity to speak to attendees regarding the FBI's Civil Rights program and its National Security Mission.

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In a follow-up to outreach with the Sikh Community, writer attended the April 5, 2008 Annual Sikh Harvest Festival at the Pleasure Palace located at 1440 Weedpatch Highway in Bakersfield. Writer along with several other invited guests to include [redacted] Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall, Arvin Mayor Timothy Tarver, Bakersfield City Council Member [redacted] and Arvin Police Chief Tommy Tunson, attended the festival as guests of [redacted] Bakersfield Baisakhi Organizing Committee; [redacted] [redacted] the Paradise Palace Foundation, and [redacted] Note is made that the Paradise Palace is an Events Hall on [redacted] property which can accommodate thousands of people.

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The featured speaker at the Harvest Festival was the Mayor of Amristar, Punjab, India- Shwait Malik. The City of Bakersfield and Amristar are in the process of becoming sister cities. Literature regarding the event is attached hereto.

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