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California Association of Licensed Investigators, Inc.

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## PI ORGANIZATION APPLAUDS CRACKDOWN ON UNLICENSED INVESTIGATORS

**Sacramento, California.** The California Association of Licensed Investigators, Inc. (CALI), the world's largest membership organization for private detectives, is applauding a crackdown by federal authorities on a Washington State based identity theft ring conducted by unlicensed investigators.

According to news reports, following a federal indictment Washington licensing authorities determined that BNT Investigations was not a licensed private investigative firm.

According to CALI President Nick Savala, "Many state licensing authorities for private investigators and related fields have been slow to grasp the ramifications of allowing unlicensed practices in the field of investigation. Although unlicensed activities by themselves are almost universally treated at the state level as misdemeanors, people who flout licensing laws are far more likely than the licensed to engage in far more egregious transgressions of the law than those who have a license to lose."

Savala stated CALI's pro-active legislative agenda has sought to combat both unlicensed activities and abuses of the public by licensees. "There are a number of basic 'no-brainer' reforms that all the states ought to be seriously considering if they haven't already," said Savala, "and these include (1) those few remaining states who don't have licensing laws for PI's need to come into line with everybody else, (2) state licensing authorities should begin a 'zero-tolerance' policy for unlicensed activities and have adequate funding to carry it out, (3) mandatory continuing education laws should be universal to insure that all licensed investigators know the laws that govern our profession and protect public privacy."

Founded in 1968, CALI is located in Sacramento, California representing over 1,800 private investigators and security professionals throughout the state.

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