

Timeline of events in the Road Dog case

An investigation revolving around Road Dog Cycle, a Denair motorcycle shop, has prompted much speculation in the Modesto legal community. Federal investigators served search warrants in February on owner Robert Holloway, a retired sheriff's deputy, and his wife, Kathy Holloway, who left the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department after she was investigated on suspicion of misusing the computer system. Her former boss, sheriff's Capt. Raul DeLeon, was placed on leave without explanation last winter. An indictment unsealed in July revealed a federal probe into alleged illegal activities at the bike shop over the past decade. Past and present law enforcement officers are charged with falsifying statements and perjury. The following is based on court documents and observations of FBI raids:

1997: Robert Holloway and his son Brent allegedly begin operating a "racketeering business" at Road Dog Cycle. Authorities say they, and others, trafficked stolen motor vehicle parts, were involved with robbery and made extortionate extensions of credit.

Nov. 20, 2007: During an interview with members of the Central Valley Gang Impact Task Force, Sheriff's Capt. Raul DeLeon denies having "a friendly relationship" with Holloway as well as contacts with Holloway during the execution of a search warrant at the home of one of Holloway's employees. A federal indictment alleges DeLeon lied to the investigators.

Dec. 6: Federal investigators escort DeLeon from the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Adam Christianson sends his top staff a memo saying DeLeon is on administrative leave pending the outcome of a federal investigation.

Dec. 19: During an interview with task force members, deputy Dave Swanson denies leaking confidential law enforcement information to an associate of Holloway, who in turn informed Holloway of possible search warrants to be executed at Road Dog Cycle. A federal indictment alleges that Swanson lied to the investigators. Swanson worked as a bailiff in Stanislaus County Superior Court before retiring in February.

Feb. 1, 2008: Members of the Central Valley Gang Impact Task Force raid Road Dog Cycle, smashing the front door to serve a search warrant before the shop had opened for business. Investigators also search the Turlock home of Robert and Kathy Holloway, on Moberg Road, and the home of their son, Brent Holloway, on Adair Road west of Modesto.

Feb. 5: Swanson is placed on leave three days before his retirement. A search warrant says investigators could look for anything that might tie Swanson to the Holloways, attorneys who represent the Holloways, a private investigator, the Hells Angels or any other outlaw motorcycle gang.

Feb. 7: Task force members return to Road Dog Cycle to serve a second search warrant.

June 3: During an interview with task force members, Steven Johnson denies making phone calls to Holloway and a Holloway associate regarding possible surveillance activity at Road Dog Cycle and intelligence regarding a theft at the Sharpe Army Depot. A federal indictment alleges Johnson, a former state corrections officer, lied to the investigators.

June 12: During testimony before a federal grand jury, Johnson makes the same denials. A federal

indictment alleges that Johnson lied under oath to the grand jury.

July 15: Officials announce the indictment of 11 men in connection with alleged illegal dealings at Road Dog. Authorities contend that Robert Holloway III and his son, Brent, ran a racketeering enterprise at the motorcycle shop, allowing members of "outlaw motorcycle clubs" to take bikes from the shop on credit without paying or making other official loan agreements. Authorities say Robert Holloway had an agreement with motorcycle club presidents that they would repossess the bikes if members failed to make good on debts. Road Dog Cycle closed at the time of the arrests. Many of the men are arrested in public displays.

July 16: Most of the men, and two not named the day before, appear together in a Fresno courtroom to hear the charges against them and make their pleas. The men charged with making false statements, DeLeon, Swanson and Johnson, are released on their own recognizance.

July 18: Joseph Tyler is released on his own recognizance. Reynaldo Sotelo is released on bond, Alfredo Rincon, is scheduled to be released once his family arranges a bond.

July 21-22: A federal magistrate judge listens to wiretap evidence collected during the fall and winter of 2007 to decide whether to release Robert Holloway and Michael J. Orozco from custody. He decides the men should stay in custody.

July 24-25: A judge decides Brent Holloway should be released from custody, but prosecutors challenge the decision.

July 31: Another federal judge upholds the decision to release Brent Holloway. The judge says Holloway will be on house arrest and monitored electronically.

Aug. 25: Attorneys for Robert Holloway and Ray Heffington file motions in support of the release of their clients.