

2 HOUR POWER POINT

Sovereign Citizen Movement in America

TALKING POINTS

SLIDE #1

Opening of lesson plan:

The threat to Tennessee in the continuing growth of the Sovereign Citizen Movement warrants a continual evaluation of strategies to counter these individuals who are associated with this movement.

Commissioner Gibbons has issued a directive for the Department of Safety and Homeland Security to educate the law enforcement community on the Sovereign Citizen movement and those threats associated with their action.

Sovereign Citizens believe the government is operating outside of its jurisdiction. Sovereigns do not recognize federal, state, or local law policies and governmental regulations.

Sovereigns are loosely affiliated individuals that live throughout the United States. There is no known command hierarchy affiliated with this group.

The Sovereign's radicalized ideology of life is so far removed from reality that it's almost humorous as they demonstrate their actual beliefs. However, not taking this group serious could result in deadly consequences.

This group has a fairly decent knowledge of the constitutional laws and will recite those when needed.....and at other times, they will manipulate the wording of the constitution to fit their cause.

SLIDE # 2: **Video / West Memphis shooting (12 min 22sec)**

With the killing of two West Memphis Police Officers, wounding of two Sheriff Department Officials, and two suspects dead; we ask ourselves "why did it go wrong"?

(The video will capture some of the events that took place on that fatal day in May 2010 as narrated by Chief Robert Paudert whose son Sgt. Brandon Paudert and Officer Bill Evans encountered two Sovereign Citizens (father and son) during an interdiction stop and was fatally shot to death by a kid with an AK-47. Also, Ret. ATF / SAC James Cavanaugh will narrate an insight into the worst **domestic** radicalized movement that dates back to 1995 (Oklahoma City bombing....168 men, women and children killed) with Timothy McVeigh.

SLIDE 3

The course objective is to increase the officer's knowledge involving Sovereign Citizens. If we familiarize our self with their practices and ideology, we will better prepare as a law enforcement community for and confrontation.

SLIDE 4

Understanding their tactics where we may encounter Sovereign Citizens in traffic stops and recognizing the “RED FLAGS” will prevent a West Memphis Arkansas incident happening on Tennessee soil.

SLIDE 5

Sovereigns fall under the FBI’s “TOP 5” domestic terrorism threats to the United States

SLIDE 6

Sovereigns believe they don’t have to answer to any government authority, including courts, taxing entities, motor vehicle and law enforcement practices

SLIDE 7

Most people may believe that when you hear the word “Sovereign Citizen”, it’s a white guy holed up in his home; armed to the teeth and waiting for the end of the world to arrive. Today, Sovereigns are crossing the boundaries of race and gender so don’t get the mind-set that this is a white man’s terror campaign.

SLIDE 8

Sovereigns originated in the mid-west in the late 1970s and 1980’s with groups like the “Posse Comitatus” and “Montana Freeman”

SLIDE 9

Most everyone remembers the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. Terry Nichols was associated with Timothy McVeigh. In 1992, Terry Nichols wrote a letter to Michigan government officials indicating he was no longer a “Citizen of their corrupt and political state and was only answerable to the “common law”

Definition of Common Law: A system in place in England that’s based on the principal that rulings were made by the King’s court according to common customs of the realm, as opposed to decisions made in federal, state, or local court systems.

SLIDE 10

This is an example of someone you would not suspect as a Sovereign Citizen. Detective Tom Laughlin, formally with the Sarasota Police Department in Florida was introduced to the Sovereign ideology by his brother. The problem here is; law enforcement needs to be aware of people like Laughlin feeding law enforcement intelligence to any radicalized group or community.

SLIDE 11

The father & son Sovereign duo team traveled throughout the United States giving seminars on debt redemption and scams. These two had a hard time blaming themselves for their own financial and personal tragedies and focused their anger on the government for causing their problems.

SLIDE 12

On May 20, 2010 during an interdiction traffic stop in West Memphis Arkansas on I40 at the 275 exit ramp, Jerry Kane distracted Officer Bill Evans and Sgt. Brandon Paudert with fictitious documents long enough for Joseph Kane to step outside the passenger side of the van with an AK-47 and kill both officers.

SLIDE 13

Video / 60 MINUTES (42sec)

“We Don’t Know What We Don’t Understand”

Video depicts Jerry Kane at a seminar where he makes the statement to a crowd “I don’t want to have to kill anybody”. Also, 60 Minutes interviews a Sovereign Citizen about his comments written in a book that it was alright to kill its law enforcement and government officials. The Sovereign acknowledges that it is alright to do so.

SLIDE 14

Jerry Kane was jailed for three days in Carrizozo New Mexico for No Driver’s License and Criminal Impersonation before posting a \$1,500.00 bond. Kane stated he had an officer sign a document that said the officer must pay for using his (Kane’s) name.

SLIDE 15

Jerry Kane makes the statement at one of his seminars that he is putting together an invoice of the arrest he was held in New Mexico for and charging the officers \$80,000.00 for using his (Kane’s) name eight times. In addition, he makes the comment that he knows where the officer lives and what the wife’s name is.

SLIDE 16

Jerry Kane’s personal; tragedies may have played a role in his growing radicalization. His six-week old daughter died as a result Sudden Infant’s Death (SID) and a local medical examiner performed an autopsy against Jerry Kane’s wishes. Jerry Kane was frustrated that he didn’t have a legal recourse to prevent the procedure. Also, Kane’s first wife who was a nurse died in 2007 from complications of pneumonia

SLIDE 17

Father and son alleged in open source reporting to travel with the mother’s ashes. This is Dependent on media outlet.

Joseph Kane was approximately 15 or 16 years old. Mother deceased, never attended school , and rode around the country with his father conducting seminars.

SLIDE 18

Tennessee Sovereign Citizen (3 Min 36sec)

This video described a Nashville Sovereign Citizen (Hollis Fay Summers) through the lens of a Nashville News reporter; covering events, interviews, and the mind-set of Sovereign ideology

SLIDE 19

The Sovereign Belief System

The contemporary sovereign belief system is based on a decades-old conspiracy theory. At some point in history, sovereigns believe, the American government set up by the founding fathers — with a legal system the sovereigns refers to common law" — was secretly replaced by a new government system based on admiralty law, the law of the sea and international commerce.

Some sovereigns blame the events of 1933, when the U.S. abandoned the gold standard. Either way, they stake their lives and livelihoods on the idea that judges around the country know all about this hidden government takeover but are denying the sovereigns' motions and filings out of treasonous loyalty to hidden and malevolent government forces.

Though this all sounds bizarre, the next layer of the argument becomes even more implausible. Since 1933, the U.S. dollar has been backed not by gold, but by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government (in fact, President Franklin D. Roosevelt ended private ownership of gold in large amounts in 1933; governments could still sell gold for dollars to the U.S. Treasury for a fixed amount after that, until that practice was ended by President Richard Nixon in 1971).

According to sovereign "researchers," this means that the government has pledged its citizenry as collateral, by selling their future earning capabilities to foreign investors, effectively enslaving all Americans. This sale, they claim, takes place at birth. When a baby is born in the U.S., a birth certificate is issued, and the hospital usually requires that the parents apply for a Social Security number at that time. Sovereigns say that the government then uses that birth certificate to set up a corporate trust in the baby's name — "a secret Treasury account" — which it funds with an amount ranging from \$600,000 to \$20 million, depending on the particular variant of the sovereign belief system. By setting up this account, every newborn's rights are cleverly split between those held by the flesh-and-blood baby and the ones assigned to his or her corporate shell account.

SLIDE 20

Clark County Sheriff Gene Kelly displays one of several letters he received from Jerry Kane in 2004 concerning a municipal court judge while he lived in Springfield, Ohio. (Photo by Marshall Gorby / Springfield News-Sun)

SLIDE 21

Sovereigns believe the gold fringe on the U.S. Flag is not a decorative feature but rather proof that the nation is under admiralty law (the law of the sea and international commerce).

SLIDE 22

On February 4, 2011, Knox County Sheriff "JJ" Jones, Governor Haslam, and the Tennessee Secretary of State received a letter from Terry Lee: Davidson (aka DAVISON) declaring his sovereignty and right to travel the state without interference. FBI JTTF task force officers attempted to make contact with Davison but were unsuccessful. Davison had a sign at his gated property claiming there was a financial penalty for trespassing on his property.

SLIDE 23

In some states of the states within the United States, bonds are canceled using red ink. Sovereigns use red ink to cancel the bond attached to their birth certificates and corporate self. Some Sovereigns believe the red ink represents the blood of the Flesh-and-blood person

SLIDE 24

Tim Turner was one of the leaders of the Guardians of the free Republics. He separated and formed the Republic of the United States (RuSA), becoming its president.

SLIDE 25

Waivers are given to “adequately trained” RuSA members who have **military or law enforcement training**. It is believed some American Rangers are armed and already carrying these credentials.

SLIDE 26

Jan 2011 - Based on information obtained from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), three identified members of the **sovereign citizen** group, Republic for the United States of America (**RuSA**), presented false identification documents in an attempt to pass through a security checkpoint at the Montgomery, Alabama, airport. The individuals attempted to utilize self-produced “Alabama Travel Warrant” and “Republic for the United States of America Diplomatic Agent” identification cards to pass through security. Each document displayed a photograph, identification number, date of birth, and an expiration date similar to a driver’s license. RuSA officials have publicly encouraged members to use credentials issued by the group in lieu of government-issued identification.

SLIDE 27

This movement came to the spotlight when Donald Trump publicly asked President Obama to release his long form birth certificate. Even with this release, the “birthers” still believe this is fraudulent and will point to inconsistencies as proof of their claim. While Trump was still considering running for office, the birthers rallied behind him.

SLIDE 28

In east Tennessee, Walter Fitzpatrick continues to call the Knoxville FBI office, US Attorney’s Office, and is relentless in his fight against perceived corruption.

SLIDE 29

Fitzpatrick claims President Obama is guilty of treason because he lied to the American people and assumed office even though he was not a natural born citizen. Since then he has changed his focus to uncovering the corruption in Monroe County. Fitzpatrick believes the Grand Jury Foreman has exceeded his term limits and is determined to bring this to light for prosecution. He continues to blame the courts, TBI, and the FBI for ignoring this corruption and accuses the officers of dereliction of duty. He is repeatedly interviewed by an on-line newspaper called the Post and Email and appears on on-line radio shows.

Slide 30

Darren Huff, a self-proclaimed Georgia Militia and member of the Oath Keepers

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Darren Huff is at a local bank in Georgia where he is over heard of going to Madisonville Tennessee armed with his AK-47 along with other militia members from other states in support of Walter Fitzpatrick. This overheard information is quickly passed on to law enforcement.

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While in route to Madisonville, Darren Huff is stopped by THP. Huff is armed with a Colt .45 handgun and refuses to consent to vehicle search. Huff admits he has his AK-47 and 300 rounds of ammunition in his truck

SLIDE 33

During Walter Fitzpatrick's court arraignment in Madisonville Tennessee, armed protestors arrive to show support for Fitzpatrick. Due to law enforcement presence, no incidents were reported.

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Fitzpatrick was indicted by the Monroe County Grand Jury and was found guilty of resisting arrest on June 23, 2011

Huff pled not guilty to federal charges and will be tried in October 2011. Huff was also arrested by Monroe Sheriff's Department and pled no contest to interfering with the Grand Jury. Both, the Georgia Militia and Oath Keepers have distanced themselves from Huff.

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TAKE A 10 MINUTE BREAK

Slide 36

IN CASE YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY

Compliments of WREG – TV News (Channel 3) VIDEO 4 min 43 sec

SLIDE 37

Here we have an understanding how the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) came into existence in the United States in the 1950s

SLIDE 38 and 39

Defines the Articles 1-9 under the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC)

SLIDE 40

Some Sovereign Citizen groups claim they are part of a Native American tribe. These groups are not recognized by the federal government or Indian Nations

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One of the more pervasive groups is the Pembina Nation Little Shell Band of North America

SLIDE 42

On June 13, 2010, a Tennessee State Trooper stooped to assist a motorist on I75 near Sweet Water Tennessee. The subject asked the trooper if he was going to give him grief over his license plate. The trooper replied no, and was able to obtain personal information from both subjects on a Vehicle Tow-In Report. This intelligence became useful in identifying the subject and was later determined to be a subject of interest out of the Florida FBI office.

Analyst Research discovered: The subject's former spouse informed FBI agents that he has become increasingly anti-government and made claims that if police tried to get him, he would take out as many as he could.

The subject has ties with the Little Shell Pembina Band, monitors the "We the People" website, and was known to have a .50 caliber sniper rifle and fully automatic AK-47's.

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United Nations of Turtle Island has been creating bogus license plates, driver's licenses and similar documents since around 2003. This group is primarily based in Eastern Tennessee, western North Carolina, and Northern Georgia.

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Turtle Island Encounter

February 25, 2011, Sovereign Citizens provide photocopies of their citizenship with the Cherokee Nation at their court hearing in Townsend Tennessee.

James and Larry Latham have a lengthy history with the Blount County Sheriff's Department for their radical behavior

SLIDE 45

Moorish Science Temple of America

This group was formed in 1913. More commonly known or referred to as Moors. They have similar beliefs as the Sovereigns; claiming not to be subjected to the United States Constitution. Predominantly seen in the middle and west Tennessee area

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Moors will find a foreclosed property, move in, file fraudulent paperwork, and entrench themselves in this property until evicted. They also will attempt to sell this property

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Moorish encounter in Tennessee

June 1, 2011, several Moorish Sovereigns ran into the Memphis airport and filmed TSA security check points and departed. They were stopped and questioned about their unusual behavior prior to being released, but not before one of the individuals claiming to security that he was a diplomat.

SLIDE 48

Embassy of Heaven encounter in Tennessee

In Tellico Plains, George Raudenbush is facing assault charges, evading arrest, and several traffic violations. Raudenbush has ties to Fitzpatrick in Monroe County and has a criminal history.

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License plate used by Raudenbush at time of traffic stop

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Identification provided to officer at time of traffic stop. Raudenbush supposedly runs a children's youth mission teaching them how to become missionaries. According to local officers in Tellico Plains, Raudenbush has been sued by MATTEL Toy Company over the unauthorized use of their American Girl dolls name. Raudenbush was photographing little girls promising that they would be models for the dolls.

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IF YOU UNDERSTAND THEM.....YOU WILL SURVIVE

SLIDE 52

Picture of various tags used on sovereign vehicles and other radical groups

SLIDE 53

Fake law enforcement credentials utilized by a group calling themselves Rangers

SLIDE 54

Fake identification declaring the individual as an investigator

SLIDE 55

Picture of various fake badges

SLIDE 56

Examples of fake driver's licenses and identification cards

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Bumper stickers that may be indicators that law enforcement should be alert for when conducting traffic stops.

SLIDE 58

Tailgate of a pickup truck stopped in Arkansas in May 2010 driven by self-proclaimed sovereign citizens.

SLIDE 59

Example of Sovereign Citizen's license plates

SLIDE 60

These signs will address Law Enforcement directly

SLIDE 61

If you are interested in becoming a sovereign citizen, look no further, you can buy the official handbook for only \$25. It has been recommended by the author of "How to make Ninja Babies."

SLIDE 62

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SLIDE 64

RuSA members have been known to call friends to their location when the police stopped them, to include videoing the officer who stopped them.

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Example of Moorish tag

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Officer safety tactical thoughts

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Officer safety tactical thoughts

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Officer safety tactical thoughts

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Officer safety tactical thoughts

SLIDE 70

Officer safety tactical thoughts

Video / TRAFFIC STOP ON EXTREMIST (15 Min)

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Suspicious Activity Report (SAR)

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Providing information to analysts and investigators to address emerging threats to Tennessee and may be a critical piece of the information to a critical investigation

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Emphasis the reporting to the local FBI / JTTF when the incident or behaviors involve exigent circumstances or active violence.

Examples; active shooter, bank robbery, executed search warrant revealing threat information. Emphasis following up with a report to the TFC following JTTF notification.

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LINE OFFICER TRAINING

The Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) Line Officer Training was developed to assist law enforcement line officers in:

- **Understanding what kinds of suspicious behaviors** are associated with pre-incident terrorism activities
- **Documenting and Reporting suspicious activity**
- **Protecting privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties** when documenting information

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SAR VIDEO (2 each)

Officers can find this information:

- Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) site
- <http://nsi.ncirc.gov>

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THE ENCOUNTER IN WEST MEMPHIS.....TWO POLICE OFFICERS DEAD, TWO SHERIFF'S OFFICERS WOUNDED, AND TWO SUSPECTS DEAD.

SLIDE 77

Tribute photo of Sgt. Brandon Paudert and Officer Bill Evans of the West Memphis Police Department

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Questions and Answers