TESTIMONY OF EDWARD GALANEK

In 1980, as a member of the New York City Police Department assigned to the District Attorney’s Office Squad - Kings County, I was asked to act in an undercover capacity. I was able to infiltrate a faction of the Gambino Crime Family (LCN). During the two years that I worked undercover, I gained first-hand knowledge of how important illegal gambling operations were to the daily business of Organized Crime. The daily profits (proceeds) of the gambling operation feed into every part of organized crime. Illegal Sports betting operations with its criminal tentacles does not just affect large metropolitan areas but touches all of America. Sports betting is a multi-billion dollar business, with legal Sports books only handling a small percent of this business.

In recent investigations we have found that parts of the criminal elements have tried to affect the legal Sports books. I am glad to report without much success. Working, studying, and investigating in this area for over ten years, I have drawn some conclusions:

1. Attacking illegal Sports Betting Operations can be done successfully.
2. Organized Crime considers this area of illegality their last strong hold.
3. Legal Sports gaming can be run without interference from Organized Crime if closely monitored.
4. Legalized Sports betting is clearly an answer to the illegal problem.

Finally, as someone who has worked in this field for over ten years, I can tell you the victims are countless. This is definitely not a victimless crime. Organized Crime along with other criminal elements hope that you and the rest of America can keep treating this lightly. Their strength is our ignorance.