

# Press Release



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**FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE:**

## **FL State Representative & Two Judges Helping Biker's Killer**

Lake County, FL, August 16, 2011 – The friends and family of Mount Dora, FL's Herbert "Steve" Muller had to bear terrible news when learning that he had been killed in a crash. His death was a result of a crash allegedly caused by Lake County civic leader Bruce Duncan as Muller was riding his motorcycle back from Biketoberfest on October 17, 2009. The Florida Highway Patrol reported that Duncan was attempting to make a left turn, crossed into the motorcycle's path, and hit the left side of Muller's bike. FHP also reported finding a ½ empty bottle of vodka in Duncan's truck as well as his Blood Alcohol Level being twice the legal limit.

Now, almost two years later, it seems that Muller's friends and family have to bear even more distressing news, this time an obvious slap in the face. According to the Orlando Sentinel (8/7/11), Florida State Representative H. Marlene O'Toole (R-Lady Lake), Circuit Judges G. Richard Singeltary and T. Michael Johnson, President of Lake-Sumter Community College Dr. Charles Mojock, Tavares City Administrator John Drury, Executive Director of Lake EMS Jim Judge and fourteen other community leaders are listed as defense witnesses in the upcoming hearing.

After not being able to previously reach a plea agreement in his DUI Manslaughter case, it is believed that Duncan will plead "No Contest" or "Guilty" at the hearing. His attorneys will most likely then have all 20 witnesses speak on behalf of Duncan's character. Their goal would be to show that the fatal crash was "an isolated incident for which [Duncan] has shown remorse" and ask the judge to impose a sentence more lenient than established state sentencing guidelines which call for 9 ½ to 15 years for allegedly taking Mullen's life.

Being one of the top Motorcyclists' Rights Organizations, ABATE of Florida feels the pending testimony by these elected and appointed officials is nothing other than a total abuse of their positions. Members of Florida's Legislature, judges, town officials, and other government officials are all put into their occupations to work in the best interest of taxpayers, not to defend the actions of a personal friend that got drunk, made the wrong decision to drive his truck, and allegedly cause a crash that killed a biker.

ABATE of Florida, Inc.'s Lake County Chapter will be at this Sentencing Hearing in mass. The hearing will be held September 19, 2011 8:30 am at the 5th Judicial Circuit Court located at 550 W. Main St. Tavares, FL. **Contact Lake County Chapter President Casey Staley at 407-469-2455 or [president@lake.abateflorida.com](mailto:president@lake.abateflorida.com) for additional information or to be part of the group ride to the hearing.**

**8/18/11 - UPDATE: Executive Director of Lake EMS Jim Judge contacted us stating that he did not feel it was appropriate in his position to testify in this matter, and has notified the State Attorney's Office of the same.**

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ABATE of Florida, Inc. is Florida's largest Motorcyclists' Rights Organization, and one of the top four largest nationwide. ABATE of Florida members come from all walks of life and include many elected officials. Our missions are to educate the public about motorcycle awareness and continuing to fight in Tallahassee for the rights of every motorcyclist and the public in general. To aid in these ends, we have an exclusive lobbyist and have founded the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Program, both with the intentions to help make the roads safer for everyone.

A print copy of this and past ABATE of Florida, Inc. Press Releases may be found here: [www.abateflorida.com/pr.htm](http://www.abateflorida.com/pr.htm).

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