



## ICPRA Press Release

### Waco Shootings

### Outlaws Bikers an Ever Present Threat

‘Very few of the communities our Police and Law Enforcement Officers work in are free of gangs and gang violence’ Greg O’Connor, the Chairman of the International Council of Police Representative Organisations(ICPRA) said today. Mr O’Connor was speaking in the wake of the outbreak of biker gang violence in Waco Texas, which left nine people dead.

“While this was an extreme incident, the reality is that motor cycle gangs are violent, well organised, and as this incident shows, well armed in all our communities, and police should always be empowered and resourced to deal with them.

While in recent years, much law and order focus has been on terrorism and political threats, the reality is that these gangs prey on local communities and seek to extend their sphere of intimidation on a daily basis, to enable them to carry out their criminal activities” Mr O’Connor went on to say.

The ICPRA Executive will meet later this week in London, and will discuss the impact of Police jurisdictions having to contain threats like those imposed by Outlaw Motor Cycle Gangs (OMCGs) with diminishing budgets.

“The Waco shootings should serve to remind legislators everywhere that outbreaks of violence like the one seen in Texas today, can occur at any time among gangs whose stock in trade is to engage in violent criminal activities in our communities” Mr O’Connor said. He warned politicians everywhere to look at their own jurisdictions to gain an understanding of the extent of Outlaw Motor Cycle Gang Activity there.”

ENDS

**Greg O'Connor**  
**Chairman**  
**International Council of Police Representative Associations**

#### **Notes for Editors:**

1. The International Council of Police Representative Associations (ICPRA) is an organisation comprising representatives of police and law enforcement associations and unions from over 40 countries. ICPRA and its affiliated member organisations collectively represent 1.5 million law enforcement officers across nations in almost every continent on earth.

2. Greg O'Connor is also the President of the New Zealand Police Association.