

Un-ringing the Bell, Part 2: Damage Control with INTERPOL

By Michelle A. Estlund on August 17, 2011

In the last post, the focus was on the manner in which INTERPOL might publish erroneous information. While a Red Notice client is certainly interested in how such an error might have occurred, it is obviously even more important to know that it can be corrected- sometimes.

It may be intuitive to think that INTERPOL will correct an error immediately once it is brought to INTERPOL's attention, but that is not necessarily so. This is because a correction is not always made, and when it is, it often not immediate.

Where the error is due to INTERPOL's actions, such as INTERPOL's characterization of offenses, it is appropriate to seek the correction directly through INTERPOL. INTERPOL can and does correct its own mistakes by reviewing its own decision-making process in the publication of the notice, and it does so on its own timetable. Clients who have sought a modification of the information circulated by INTERPOL in the the past have ultimately received the requested relief, but it can take an agonizingly long time to happen.

On the other hand, some errors, such as false charges emanating from the country that requested the Red Notice, may require a different form of correction. In the next post, look for a discussion of modifying information received by outside sources.

As always, questions and comments are welcomed.